



Mining Accident News No.1123

1 to 5 August 2011

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Monday 1 August 2011

Ukraine Halts Mine Rescue Effort After 37 Die

Extract from Bloomberg

Ukraine called off rescue efforts at the two coal mines where 37 workers died last week in the deadliest such accidents in the east European nation since 2007.

The authorities halted the operation at the Sukhodil'ska-Skhidna mine, owned by the country's richest man, Rinat Akhmetov, at 6 a.m. yesterday with two miners still missing, two injured and 24 dead after a blast three days earlier, the Emergency Ministry said on its website. Eleven workers died and four were hurt the same day after a tower collapsed at the state run Bazhanova mine in the city of Makiyivka, the ministry said.



The authorities halted the operation at the Sukhodil'ska-Skhidna mine, owned by the country's richest man.

The government, which controls mines accounting for about half the nation's coal output, is seeking to lure investments to upgrade working facilities and make production more efficient. Ukraine, Europe's third-biggest supplier of coal after Russia and Poland, produced 75.2 million metric tons last year.

The coal industry is the deadliest in the country as 282 miners were killed in 2009 and 2010 and a further 10,139 were left injured, according to government data.

Miners were buried in Sukhodil'sk and Makiyivka over the weekend. Ukraine observed a national day of mourning yesterday.

Prime Minister Mykola Azarov travelled to Makiyivka in the eastern Donetsk region yesterday and President Viktor Yanukovich visited Sukhodil'sk in the Lugansk region, 810 kilometers (503 miles) southeast of the capital, Kiev, on July 29. The president ordered the Prosecutor General's Office to complete a probe into both accidents by Aug. 10, according to the president's website.

A government commission, headed by Coal and Energy Minister Yuriy Boyko, is investigating the explosion at Sukhodil'sk and the accident in Makiyivka.

The Sukhodil'ska mine is operated by VAT Krasnodonvuhillya, Ukraine's second-largest

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mining company and a unit of Akhmetov's Metinvest, the country's largest steelmaker.

Qld: Waldon remembers mine disaster

Extract from The Queensland Times, Aus

CLOSE to 40 years may have passed since the Box Flat mining disaster, but the events of that fateful day are still enough to bring tears to the eye of retired miner Lance Waldon.



Lance Waldon remembers his lost mining mates. Photo: Rob Williams

Yesterday marked 39 years to the day when 17 miners were killed in what was Ipswich's worst mine disaster.

Mr Waldon, who was part of the Box Flat mine's rescue team when it exploded in 1972, was never allowed to retrieve his mates from the ill-fated mine.

"It is one of those things you never forget," Mr Waldon said.

"It is always in the back of your mind all the time.

"We lost a lot of good mates that day."

The 73-year-old recalls vividly the moment he was blown against a wall following an explosion.

"I remember sliding down the wall and then I grabbed my helmet and picked myself up," Mr Waldon said.

"Everyone was screaming.

"It was the darkest, coldest, bloodiest night I ever put in.

"I have still got massive scars across my chest even today."

Less than 24 hours after the tragic accident, and with burns to his chest, Mr Waldon was asked to go back to working in the mines.

It was a job he continued until he was pensioned off at 49 due to injury.

He was among those gathering to pay their respects at the Swanbank memorial.

The memorial bears the names of those killed and entombed underground, with floral wreaths laid in their honour yesterday.

Col Webb said he had worked 21 years underground at Box Flat, leaving the year before the explosion.

"I lost a lot of mates that day," he said.

"It came as a hell of a shock."

Ukraine: Makiyivuhillia mine recovery to take 16 months

Extract from KyivPost

The restoration of the Bazhanov mine in Ukraine's Donetsk Region, which is part of the state company Makiyivuhillia, will take sixteen months in the wake of the July 29 accident that claimed eleven lives, Ukrainian Prime Minister Mykola Azarov during at a meeting he convened at the mine on Sunday.

"The plan for restoring the mine is figured for sixteen months. This mine should be making money in sixteen months," Azarov said.

The accident at the mine was unprecedented in both Ukrainian and world experience, he said, and was "not a case of elevators breaking down."

There are three operating lifts of this type at Ukrainian mines, Azarov said, and this is to be carefully inspected.



The restoration of the Bazhanov mine in Donetsk Region will take sixteen months in the wake of the July 29 accident that claimed eleven lives.

"The elevator's carrying capacity was lower than critically possible," according to an inspection of the accident site and the latest available information, the prime minister said. "The question arises: why did the mine's management not deal with these issues?" he said.

After the accident, 538 miners were able to reach the surface independently after the mine's pit frame collapsed.

Makiyivuhillia is among Ukraine's ten largest coal producers, mining energy and coking coal and encompassing eleven shafts.

Quote of the week



"News, if unreported, has no impact. It might as well have not happened at all."

Gay Talese
(American author, 1932 -)

Tuesday 2 August 2011

Australian Killed in Freeport Mine Accident: Papua Police

Extract from Jakarta Globe

Papua. An Australian was believed killed in a landslide in an area controlled by mining giant Freeport Indonesia in Tembagapura, Papua, on Tuesday.

Police say the victim was an employee of mining contractor Redpath Indonesia, though a spokeswoman for the company told the Jakarta Globe that they were yet to confirm this and would make a statement in about an hour.

A name published in the Indonesian media was wrong, she said.

Papua Police spokesman Sr. Comr. Wahcyono told the Globe that the landslide occurred at mile 73 of the road leading to the mine.

"The landslide hit a Ford pick-up truck driven by ... an Australian citizen. He was thrown into a 150-meter abyss," Wachyono said.

A river was at the bottom of the cliff.

Wahcyono said a search and rescue team was at the scene attempting to retrieve the victim's body.

The landslide was believed triggered by heavy overnight rain, he said.

Police were still searching the area to determine if others had been swept off the cliff, he said, adding it was unlikely.

Ukraine: A job that kills

Extract from www.day.kiev.ua



Ukraine observed a day of mourning on Sunday over the accidents that had occurred last Friday at the Sukhodolska-Skhidna mine in Luhansk oblast and the Bazhanov mine in Donetsk

oblast, which left 37 miners dead and six injured.

But are black ribbons on flags at half mast and substantial, at first glance, financial aid to families a fair price for the deaths? Everybody will say: life is invaluable and nothing can measure it. However, society and the state still can if not expiate then at least make amends for their guilt over the innocent victims and their relatives. President Viktor Yanukovich spoke of this on *The Day* the accidents took place. Addressing the governmental commission that is investigating the causes of the explosion at the Sukhodolska-Skhidna coal mine, he said that the Ukrainian authorities, mine managers and owners (he did not mention trade unions) "must join efforts to establish a [mining safety – *Author*] program which would make sure that all the necessary measures are fully taken."

"I am drawing your attention to the importance of making unbiased conclusions about this tragedy," the head of state also emphasized. It is a right piece of advice. But how can it be followed if this commission only consists of governmental functionaries without even one representative of the Independent Union of Coal Miners. Yet, as Mykhailo Volynets, head of this trade union and a member of parliament (BYuT-Fatherland), told UNIAN, the Cabinet is obliged to include into the commission representatives of the trade unions whose members were killed in the accidents. "I have been phoning along the whole line since the very morning to discuss who should be included into the governmental commission. Then I was told: the leadership instructed that you should not be included," Volynets pointed out and said that only representatives of "puppet" trade unions were included into the commission. "This is why people were, are, and will be dying."

Of course, not everything depends on commissions. We have had lots of them, but the situation is not improving. Ukraine is known to be among the world's top three leaders in coal mine injuries and deaths. The territorial department of the State Committee for Mining

Industry Supervision inspected Luhansk oblast a little more than a month ago. They spotted 2,800 infractions at 156 coal mines, and, while they were doing this, a fire broke out at Sukhodolska.

The governmental commissions are still working. Criminal cases have been opened and investigation is underway into both accidents. Speaking of what happened at Sukhodolska, Yanukovich said to journalists: "Two versions of the tragedy are being considered. The blast may have been caused by the fault of a mine electric equipment or provoked by the drilling and blasting operations that had been carried shortly before." The newly-appointed Donetsk governor Andrii Shyshatsky has expressed his version of the accident at the Bazhanov mine: the headframe tumbled down after being flooded with water during the recent downpours.

Prime Minister Mykola Azarov visited the blast-stricken Sukhodolska as late as Sunday and, as is the custom, assured us that "the government will make an all-out effort, use funds and research findings to organize safe work in coal mining. Coal is a strategic commodity for us, especially when oil and gas prices are so high. However, we do not need coal at this cost. Therefore, we must see to it that this tough and self-denying profession be safer. The government is going to redouble its efforts to this end," the prime minister said. In his words, the Cabinet will discuss mining safety on Wednesday. Is it for the first time? And where is the result after all?

Rinat Akhmetov, MP and manager of the Ukraine's Development foundation, has offered very touching condolences over the tragedy: "I want to express my profound sympathy with the relatives of the dead. I want to tell them that everybody is sharing their sorrow. It is the sorrow of every resident of the Luhansk oblast, the entire Donbas and Ukraine. Search is now in progress for those missing at the Sukhodolska and Bazhanov mines. We are all nursing a hope." Akhmetov noted that coal is extracted at Ukrainian mines in incredibly difficult conditions

and that “we are constantly working to ease them.” “We will continue purchasing the best equipment that will allow us to ensure safety for miners. This by far the most courageous and heroic profession must be safe. This is our top priority today,” Akhmetov stressed and promised to help every family of a killed miner and all those who were injured. (The Krasnodonvuhillia association, which comprises Sukhodolska-Skhidna, has really announced that each of the families of the dead will receive a million hryvnias, the company will take custody of their children, and the injured will be receiving medical benefits until they fully recover.) “We will do our level best,” Akhmetov said in his letter of condolences without saying a word about responsibility that lies, one way or another, with him as one of the end owners of the accident-hit mine.

Meanwhile, the media keep reporting on disproportionate incomes of Ukrainian mine owners, caused by the growth of world fuel prices. For example, the coking coal extracted at Sukhodolska costs about 200 dollars on world markets, while its production cost is only 43-54 dollars per ton. But a mine is not exactly a milk cow. Experts know: if you are too greedy and exceed a certain level of production, the methane, which hates void, will literally explode in the space the miners have opened, and ventilation will be unable to blow it away. Then any spark will suffice to cause a tragedy.

The country’s president also has something to repent of. Kick-starting the administrative reform, he must have forgotten that there are institutions in which it is very dangerous to carry out radical transformations. This applies, above all, to labor safety, where major staff layoffs happened lately. Almost a third of the State Committee for Coal Mining Supervision employees, who are supposed to monitor coal mine safety, quit the job. In addition, this monitoring agency was deprived of independence without too much hesitation and subordinated to the Ministry for Emergencies. Will the government have to revise its rash decisions?

The latest tragedy in the mining industry has livened up its adversaries. They suggest decommissioning the mines and purchasing coal abroad, forgetting that many mines are the economic base of a city, the largest, if not the only, employer. Besides, coal is a strategic raw material of which Ukraine has enormous reserves and which determines the level of this country’s energy security. Ukraine is not in a position, at least today, to discontinue using it. So shall we go on keeping a martyrology of major accident victims? Those include 13 in 2006, 101 in 2007, 24 in 2008, 13 in 2009, 37 in the ongoing 2011... And what if this makes miners lose their patience because they go every day to work which seems more like a war where people get killed?

Wednesday 3 August 2011

WA: Inspectors to probe safety at Frog's Leg

Extract from The West Australian, Aus

The WA Mines Department says it will investigate safety concerns raised by Alacer Gold over its part-owned Frog's Leg gold mine near Kalgoorlie, WA.

Department safety division executive director Malcolm Russell said the allegations made by Alacer chief executive Edward Dowling against its French joint venture partner, La Mancha Resources, were extremely serious.



"The resources safety division will investigate the allegations . . . as a matter of absolute priority," he said.

"We will take all necessary steps to ensure that the operators are fully meeting their legal obligations regarding the safety of the mine and its workers.

"Following a thorough investigation . . . the department will take whatever actions are necessary."

On Monday, Mr Dowling said at the Diggers and Dealers conference in Kalgoorlie-Boulder that he was concerned La Mancha was mismanaging the mine and not spending money where it needed to.

Although Mr Dowling said the mine did not need to be closed down he suggested, in a highly unusual move, that WA mines inspectors should investigate.

La Mancha's Australian office has declined to comment.

Alacer owns 49 per cent of Frog's Leg and has made little secret of its desire to buy out its 51 per cent joint venture partner, which is controlled by France's Areva.

Alacer was formed this year through the merger of Avoca Resources and Anatolia Minerals and has operations in WA and Turkey.

This week in mining accident history

4 August 1900

Bell Mine

Butte, Silver Bow county, Montana, USA

Underground diamond mine

1 killed, explosion

Source: www.gendisasters.com

MAN KILLED IN THE BELL

PAT MURPHY by Mistake Ran into an Explosion.

HE BECAME CONFUSED

Had Been Given a Warning but Ran Into Danger Instead of Away From It – Leaves a Wife and Children.

PATRICK MURPHY, a miner employed in the Bell mine, was instantly killed about noon yesterday by a shot on the 900-foot level. MURPHY was at work on the third floor of the level and several men were engaged in a raise just above him. They had drilled a set of holes and "shotted" them and started to fire. They knew MURPHY was at work right below and gave him the usual warning. He started to run, but instead of going away from the danger he ran right into it, evidently having become confused. The first shot struck him almost squarely in the face and killed him instantly. The force of the explosion threw him back some distance and when help reached him he was dead.

Coroner Jullien was at once notified and the body was removed to Duggan's undertaking rooms.

MURPHY was a man about 43 years of age and well known as "Plain PAT MURPHY." He leaves a wife and several children.

The inquest over the body of **PATRICK MURPHY**, the victim of the disaster in the Bell mine, took place at the undertaking rooms of L. Duggan last night. **Michael Lowney, J. E. Moran, L. J. O'Neill, Frank Hunter** and **Frank Hughes** were the witnesses examined and the testimony of all was substantially the same and to the effect that after Lowney left the place where the shots had been prepared to blast MURPHY went to the shot, with an evident desire to see that everybody else had left it. Lowney went to the floor below to give the fire cry, but MURPHY, it seems, failed to heed him. The jury rendered the following verdict:

"That the deceased, **PATRICK MURPHY**, came to his death at Diamond mine in Butte, Silver Bow county, Monday, on the 4th day of August, 1900, from the explosion of a charge of blasting

powder and from the evidence the jury fails to find that anyone was to blame for the matter."

The Anaconda Standard, Anaconda, MT 5 Aug 1900



Bell Diamond Mine headframe popularly known as a "Gallus Frame" in Butte, is one of the most photographed icons of the "The Richest Hill on Earth". It now remains as a sentinel overlooking the ravages of over 100 years of mining.

Thursday 4 August 2011

Chopper crash kills 10 in Indonesia: officials

Extract from gulfnews.com

A helicopter crash in central Indonesia killed 10 people including at least two Australians

JAKARTA: A helicopter crash in central Indonesia killed 10 people including at least two Australians employed by Melbourne-based Newcrest Mining, officials said Thursday.



The company said two South Africans were also killed but Indonesian officials insisted all four foreigners who perished in the accident were Australians, citing the passenger list.

Six Indonesians also died when the chopper went down in heavy rain Wednesday afternoon shortly after taking off from Manado on Sulawesi island, local officials said.

"The helicopter crashed in a mountainous area and it was raining when the accident happened," transport ministry spokesman Bambang Ervan told AFP.

An Indonesian man who was found alive at the crash scene on Thursday morning later died of his injuries, raising the toll to 10, officials said.

Search and rescue workers discovered the badly damaged wreckage in dense forest about 10 kilometers (six miles) from Manado, North Sulawesi province.

The Bell 412 aircraft was flying to Newcrest's Gosowong mine on the island of Halmahera, some 2,400 kilometres northeast of the capital Jakarta, Australia's largest gold producer said.

The helicopter was chartered by PT Nusa Halmahera Minerals, a joint venture between Newcrest Mining Ltd. and Indonesian company PT Aneka Tambang. Newcrest said the cause of the crash was not yet known.

"There were 10 people on board the helicopter, which was transporting eight employees and contractors to the mine and there were two crew," said the Australian Stock Exchange-listed Newcrest.

Senior executives were en route to Manado, along with PT Halmahera Minerals director Iwan Irawan, with work at the Gosowong mine suspended, added the company, one of the world's lowest-cost gold producers.

"Newcrest and Aneka Tambang express their deepest sadness and condolences to family, colleagues and friends of the passengers over this tragic event," said Newcrest chief executive Greg Robinson.

Newcrest, which has around 5,100 employees and is among Australia's top 20 companies by market capitalisation, added that counselling and support services were being made available

to family and employees. The company operates across Australia as well as in Indonesia.

Blast at Ukraine Mine Injures 26 People

Extract from www.foxnews.com

KIEV, Ukraine -- Officials say methane has caused an explosion in a coal mine in eastern Ukraine and 26 miners have been injured.

Thursday's blast was the third mining accident in Ukraine in less than a week.

The mining industry in the ex-Soviet nation is considered one of the world's most dangerous because of outdated equipment and widespread disregard for safety regulations.

The Emergencies Ministry said Thursday's accident occurred at the Krasnokutskaya mine in the Luhansk region, leaving 5 miners hospitalized with severe burns and 21 with minor burns.

The ministry says the blast occurred at the depth of 510 feet after the miners switched on an electric cable hoist.

Last Friday, an explosion and an elevator collapse at two coal mines in the same region killed 37 miners

Philippines: 67% of mine accidents occur in small operations

Extract from the Sun.Star.Baguió

RECORDS from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) show fatal accidents were recorded higher in small-scale mines than in large-scale operations.

From June 2010 to June 2011, 24 mine deaths were reported.

Sixteen of these were reported from the small-scale mining sector while eight were industrial accidents in large mines.

Sixty seven percent of the fatalities were mostly from unregulated small-scale mining operations, which do not have permits from the Provincial Mining Regulatory Boards (PMRBs).

Investigations conducted revealed deaths from small-scale mines were due to suffocation relative to oxygen deficiency (63 percent) while 37 percent resulted from drowning, falling, pinning, and blasting.

Of the eight industrial cases, four were due to rock fall; two due to slipping/falling; one due to electrocution; while another was a vehicular accident claiming the life of a 5-year-old boy.

Mine safety in the mining operations is one concern of the MGB.

Although small-scale mining is a devolved function to the local governments, the MGB continuously provides technical assistance to the small-scale mining permit holders and other small scale mining associations in the region through mine safety training such as mine safety rules and regulations, first aid and basic life support, and risk reduction management to avoid mine accidents.

Chilean miners live in poverty a year after rescue

Extract from the Washington Post, USA

SANTIAGO, Chile — They have an exhibit at the Smithsonian and a line of toys depicting their epic rescue. But most of the 33 men whose saga in a collapsed mine captivated the world a year ago face a new crisis today: poverty.

The miners became celebrities of sorts as soon as the details of their underground ordeal began to trickle out. The men were greeted by a burst of fanfare when they emerged after 69 days, and many expected their lives would improve with their newfound fame.

But back home in the mining town of Copiapo, most of the men have been unable to find a new way to earn a living, forcing them back into a life underground. They still live in their old rickety

houses, where the cold desert nights and scorching days have compounded mental and physical health problems stemming from the accident.

And while Chileans mostly seem to ignore them these days, some of the miners have been publicly criticized for speaking engagements while simultaneously suing the government that rescued them, on allegations that it allowed a dangerous mine to operate. Although their trips have been all-expenses paid, few of the men say they have made money off their appearances.

“There are people, for example, in a store who walk up and get angry at you. I didn’t choose to travel, I don’t have the money to travel,” Edison Pena said in a radio interview. “And if we had remained underground? And if there were only a big cross with our pictures on it? Would that be better?”

One of the rescued miners, Pablo Rojas, 47, now works digging a tunnel in a small mining operation. Having worked in mining since he was 16 and lacking a high school diploma, Rojas said he had no other work options. With the publicity of the first anniversary of the collapse, Rojas said his nightmares and difficulty sleeping have increased dramatically.

Jose Ojeda, another of the miners, also returned underground but lasted just two minutes. “Inside the mine, in the darkness, I started to feel like I was suffocating, dizzy,” he said. Since then, he has been working aboveground, near the mouth of the mine, but said even that was traumatic.

Shift foreman Luis Urzua, who took a leading role in organizing life underground during the crisis, is one of about a half-dozen of the miners who has capitalized on the drama. Urzua makes a living as a public speaker, telling the tale of how he guided the men through the entire ordeal.

But most of the men are suffering from financial problems, and many remain traumatized, said Jean Romagnoli, one of the lead doctors in the

rescue operation. “They are taking uppers, downers, stabilizers,” he said. “They don’t understand why they are taking them, but they are fed up with pills. It is not pills they need, but the tools to deal with fame and the tools to renovate themselves.”

Though the trapped miners were promised millions in exclusive movie deals and rumors swirled that Brad Pitt wanted to buy the rights to their story, it took them six months to organize their collective rights.

Last month, producer Michael Medavoy announced that he had bought the rights to their story. Though details of the deal have not been released, filming is expected to begin in 2012. Medavoy, who spent a decade of his youth living in Chile, has said he will focus on just a few of the 33 men. A contract that the miners signed with their Chilean lawyers last December stipulates that they will share certain revenue — including any authorized book or movie deal.

Meanwhile, the men are hoping they will receive settlements from either of the two lawsuits currently filed — including the suit against the government for allowing the notoriously unsafe mine to remain open after years of sanctions, warnings and citations. A second lawsuit, against the mine owners, alleges negligence. The men are seeking \$541,000 each in their suit against the government and an undetermined amount from the company.

President Sebastian Pinera has planned a ceremony for the first anniversary on Friday in the northern city of Copiapo, but some local politicians are boycotting.

“We as a municipality are not going to participate because this is all a media and political show,” said Brunilda Gonzalez, mayor of Caldera, a port city near the collapsed mine. Gonzalez has accused the government of not paying enough attention to safety regulations in area mines despite boosting the budget for the national mine safety office by 40 percent.

Romagnoli, the doctor, lamented that the men had not been made ambassadors for workers' safety. "In any other country, they would have been national heroes," he said. "Why have they been abandoned?"

First Black Saturday, now landslide tragedy strikes Warrnambool family

Extract from The Standard, Vic, Aus

A FORMER Warrnambool man was killed in an isolated part of Indonesia after his vehicle was swept from an embankment into the base of a river canyon.

Mining engineer Wayne Davey died after his off-road vehicle plummeted 150 metres from a jungle road due to a landslide from the mountains above.



Indonesian landslide victim Wayne Davey.

The 44-year-old was an employee at the huge Freeport mine in the eastern Indonesian province of Papua and was driving to the airport town of Timika when the accident occurred early Tuesday morning. He was the only occupant of the vehicle.

Mr Davey was born and raised in Warrnambool before working in various jobs in Geelong, Portland and Darwin.

His wife Lisa was notified of the death late Tuesday. The couple have two young children, William and Jade.

The former Warrnambool man is the nephew of Leon and Joan Davey who made headlines after the Black Saturday bushfires which claimed the

lives of their son Robert, daughter-in-law Natasha and two grandchildren Jorja and Alexis.

Leon Davey told *The Standard* his nephew was much-loved by his parents and extended family.

He said his brother Frank, sister-in-law Elinor and their family would be in a state of shock after the sudden death of their son.

"We'll miss Wayne. It's just an awful thing to happen to his wife and children," Mr Davey said.

"He lived life to the fullest and was a courageous, bright young man who was well-liked. We understand the heartache that they'll go through. It's a very tough thing to deal with."

Papua Police spokesman Senior Commander Wachyono said the landslide was thought to have been caused by heavy overnight rain.

The officer said large volumes of rock and mud hit

Mr Davey's car about 3am Tuesday on the road between the mine site and Timika township, sending the vehicle hurtling 150 metres down a ravine.

Senior Commander Wachyono said Mr Davey's body had been recovered but investigators had yet to piece together a more detailed picture of the incident.

The Redpath Mining company's offices in Brisbane and Jakarta were contacted by *The Standard* but both centres redirected enquires to its Canadian headquarters.

Redpath senior vice-president Michael Kelly was unavailable for comment yesterday due to the time difference between Australia and his Canadian office in North Bay, Ontario.

Mr Davey was born at Marcus Saltau House in December 1966, one of three children to Frank and Elinor, who also have an older son Paul and daughter Maree.

He attended school at Warrnambool North Technical School before leaving when he was 16 years old to work at the Ford automotive factory in Geelong.

The engineer was also employed at Portland's Alcoa aluminium smelter for a time before heading to the Northern Territory more than a decade ago.

Mr Davey worked as an engineer at Kakadu's uranium mine and lived in Darwin for a time before emigrating to Indonesia last year.

His funeral will be held in Bali later this week with his wife, family, friends and colleagues from Redpath Mining in attendance.

Papua Governor and noted environmentalist Barnabas Suebu is also understood to be attending Mr Davey's funeral.

Friday 5 August 2011

WA: Bowler urges apology over mine safety claims

Extract from ABC News Online, Aus

The Member for Kalgoorlie says an American CEO who raised safety concerns about a mine in Western Australia's Goldfields should substantiate his claims or issue an apology.

Edward Dowling, the head of mining company Alacer, has said the Frogs Leg mine, in which his company owns a 49 per cent share, is being developed too quickly by majority owner La Mancha.

The Department of Mines and Petroleum says it is treating the accusation seriously.

MP John Bowler says he has serious reservations about the claims.

"Behind all this is a part of corporate power play regarding the ownership of this very rich gold mine," he said.

"I'm not privy to what these companies are thinking. All I know is that allegations the mine is unsafe have to be clarified or an apology made."

Mining dictionary

A guide to coal mining terminology

A

AVERAGE CONCENTRATION

A determination which accurately represents the atmospheric conditions with regard to respirable dust to which each miner in the active workings of a mine is exposed



Cyclone assembly for coal dust sampling

For more information on airborne and other dusts see:

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/minerals/safety/publications/primefacts/airborne-dust-monitoring>

<http://www.coalservices.com.au/standingdustairbornedust.aspx>

-Ed



Industry & Investment

Engineering safety seminars

The 21st Mechanical Engineering Safety Seminar

will be held at Sydney Olympic Park, on Wednesday 10 August and Thursday 11 August 2011.

The 21st Electrical Engineering Safety Seminar will

be held at Sydney Olympic Park, on Wednesday 9 November and Thursday 10 November 2011.

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/minerals/safety/resources/seminars-and-conferences>